

**2004**  
**UTAH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



*Olene S. Walker  
Governor,  
State of Utah*



I am pleased to report 2004 has been a good year for Utah agriculture. It has been the year of the watershed. For those not familiar with the term, watersheds are areas of land where all the water drains to the same location, such as a stream, pond or wetland. By protecting watersheds, we simultaneously improve both water quality and water quantity. I like to call watersheds “lifesheds”, because they give us life.

We have exceeded our goal in the significant watershed protection program, “Adopt A Waterbody”. Forty new waterbodies have been adopted this year, doubling the number of existing projects. I am delighted to report that we now have more than 100 separate groups involved in this program.

My watershed message will continue to reverberate throughout Utah. I am asking fourth grade students...and you...to learn the answers to five key questions.

1. What is a watershed? Watersheds are areas of land where all water drains to the same location, such as a stream, a pond or wetland.
2. Where is my watershed? It is generally where you live. You can find your watershed at [www.adoptawaterbody.utah.gov/](http://www.adoptawaterbody.utah.gov/)
3. How healthy is my watershed? The health is determined by three things: the water quality, the water quantity and the number of trees and plants along the stream bank.
4. Where does the water go? Water always flows to the lowest point, like a lake or reservoir, and along the way, the water is used over and over.
5. How can I help? We can all help by getting involved and using water wisely. The “Adopt A Waterbody” program is one way to help. You or your group can take care of a segment of a river or an area of land where water flows to a river.

“Adopt A Waterbody” is an excellent program. It delivers important results especially during drought years. You can find out about watersheds by visiting: [www.adoptawaterbody.utah.gov/](http://www.adoptawaterbody.utah.gov/)

Best wishes in your conservation efforts.

Sincerely,

Olene S. Walker, Governor  
State of Utah

# Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

## Administration

Cary G. Peterson  
Commissioner

Kyle R. Stephens  
Deputy Commissioner

Renee Matsuura  
Director of Administrative Services

George Hopkin, Acting Director  
Agricultural Marketing and Conservation

Dr. Michael R. Marshall  
Director of Animal Industry/State Veterinarian

Dr. David H. Clark  
Director of Laboratory Services/State Chemist

G. Richard Wilson  
Director of Plant Industry

Dr. Chris Crnich  
Director of Regulatory Services

Larry Lewis  
Public Information Officer

Eileen Frisbey  
Administrative Assistant

Kathleen Mathews  
Administrative Secretary

## Agricultural Advisory Board

Arthur Douglas ..... Chairman  
Utah Farmers Union

Bob Bown ..... Vice Chairman  
Utah Dairymens Association

Jamie Gillmore ..... Utah Wool Growers Association

Monty Weston ..... Utah Cattlemens Association

George Dyches ..... Food Processing Industry

James Selander ..... Food Supplement Manufacturers

Merl Thurgood ..... Utah Horse Industry

Larry Johnson..... Utah Assn. of Conservation Districts

Grant Tingey ..... Utah Livestock Marketing Association

Carma Wadley ..... Consumers' Representative

Dr. James Eaton ..... Utah Veterinary Medical Association

Leland Hogan ..... Utah Farm Bureau

## Department Phone Directory - Area Code (801)

For information and numbers not listed below.....538-7100

Internet homepage: [www.ag.utah.gov](http://www.ag.utah.gov)

Internet email: [larrylewis@utah.gov](mailto:larrylewis@utah.gov)

### Commissioner's Office

Commissioner ..... 538-7101  
Administrative Assistant ..... 538-7105  
Deputy Commissioner ..... 538-7102  
Administrative Secretary ..... 538-7103  
Public Information Officer ..... 538-7104

### Administrative Services

Director ..... 538-7110  
Budget and Accounting ..... 538-7032  
Data Processing Services ..... 538-7113  
GIS ..... 538-9904  
Personnel and Payroll ..... 538-7112

### Agricultural Marketing and Conservation

Director ..... 538-7108  
Ag Resource Development Loans ..... 538-7176  
Environmental Quality ..... 538-7175  
Livestock & Market News ..... 538-7109  
Environmental Quality Information Specialist ..... 538-7098  
Soil Conservation ..... 538-7171

Agricultural Statistics (USDA) ..... 524-5003

Animal Damage Control ..... 975-3315

### Animal Industry

Director ..... 538-7160  
Animal Health ..... 538-7162  
Animal Identification (Brands) ..... 538-7166  
Aquaculture ..... 538-7029  
Elk Farming ..... 538-7137  
Meat Inspection ..... 538-7117  
Serology Laboratory ..... 538-7165

### Chemistry Laboratory

Director ..... 538-7128  
Bacteriology Laboratory ..... 538-7129  
Feed & Fertilizer Laboratory ..... 538-7134  
Meat Laboratory ..... 538-7132  
Pesticide Residue Laboratory ..... 538-7135

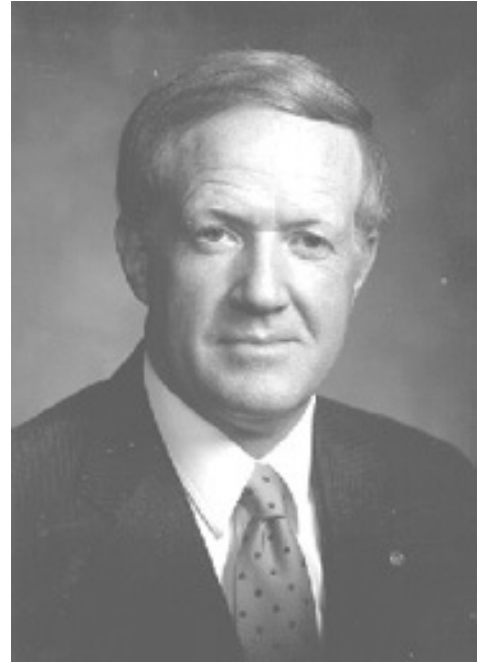
### Plant Industry

Director ..... 538-7180  
Entomology ..... 538-7184  
Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Inspection ..... 538-7183  
Seed & Feed Inspection ..... 538-7187  
Grain Grading Lab (Ogden UT) ..... 392-2292  
Insect Infestation Emergency Control ..... 538-7180  
Noxious Weeds ..... 538-7183  
Pesticides/Fertilizers ..... 538-7188  
Seed Laboratory ..... 538-7182

### Regulatory Services

Director ..... 538-7150  
Bedding, Quilted Clothing, & Upholstered Furn. .... 538-7151  
Dairy Compliance ..... 538-7145  
Egg & Poultry Compliance ..... 538-7144  
Food Compliance ..... 538-7149  
Label Evaluation ..... 538-7151  
Meat Compliance ..... 538-7144  
Metrology (measurement) Laboratory ..... 538-7153  
Motor Fuels Testing Laboratory ..... 538-7154  
Weights & Measures ..... 538-7158

*Commissioner of Agriculture  
and Food  
Cary G. Peterson*



I am happy to report that despite six consecutive years of drought in our state, Utah agriculture continues to remain productive. Our farmers and ranchers have adapted to dwindling water sources by planting alternative crops, planting fewer acres or sharing what water is available.

Farm income in Utah last year rose to \$1.134 billion, that's a six percent increase over the previous year.

Our economic future looks bright as the strengthening U.S. economy points to continued growth. Utah farm products that are exported overseas are contributing to a projected record U.S. export totalling \$61 billion this year.

Utah grown agricultural products are enjoyed by families and businesses around the world. And more products are headed overseas than ever before.

To illustrate the growth in this area consider that the number of certificates our department issues to verify wholesomeness of export products has increased dramatically. In 2001 just 198 Certificates of Free Sale were issued for these products. Last year that number climbed to more than 1,300. And this year we're on pace to hit 3,500. That's solid good news for Utah agriculture.

I commend Utah's farmers, ranchers and food producers for expanding their markets during these times of low water, and I am excited about what they can do when irrigation reservoirs return to normal levels.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cary G. Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cary" being more prominent.

Cary G. Peterson, Utah  
Commissioner of Agriculture and Food

# Mission Statement

The mission of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food is to "Protect and Promote Utah Agriculture and food." It is also believed that a safe food supply is the basis for health and prosperity. Food safety, public health and consumer protection is a critical and essential function of state government. In order to accomplish this mission, with increased population and industry growth, we are identifying ways and means to fund the regulatory functions of the department. In addition, we continue to educate the public about the importance of agriculture and the value of maintaining a viable agriculture industry.

We will promote the responsible stewardship of our state's land, water and other resources through the best management practices available. We will promote the economic well-being of Utah and her rural citizens by adding value to our agricultural products. We also aggressively seek new markets for our products. And we will inform the citizens and officials of our state of our work and progress.

In carrying out that mission, department personnel will take specific steps in various areas of the state's agricultural industry, such as the following:

## Homeland Security

Homeland Security has become a focus of the Department since the September 11, 2001 attack on the United States. The threat of agri-terrorism and the possibility of foreign animal disease being introduced to the state make this a top priority. The Department worked to obtain federal funding for developing a mobile emergency response capability. The Division of Animal Industry has offered training and consultation in biosecurity measures to various groups.



Regulatory Services developed two brochures to highlight its new program aimed at protecting consumers and merchants in the marketplace. The program was developed in response to Utah's growing population. The program charges a small fee to businesses to offset the cost of keeping food safe and measuring devices accurate.



## Regulation

Department operations help protect public health and safety as well as agricultural markets by assuring consumers of clean, safe, wholesome, and properly labeled and measured or weighed products. This includes products inspected by UDAF's animal industry, plant industry, weights and measures, and food and dairy inspectors, compliance officers and field representatives. It involves chemical analysis by the state laboratory, which is part of the department. It also includes other consumer products such as bedding, quilted clothing and upholstered furniture.

This inspection also protects legitimate producers and processors by keeping their markets safe from poor products and careless processing.

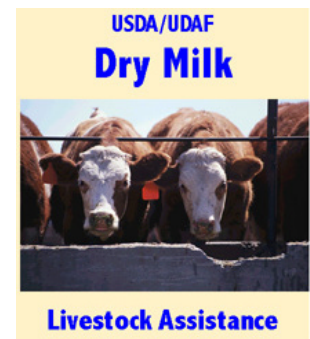
## Conservation

Through its variety of programs in this area, the department will work to protect, conserve and enhance Utah's agricultural and natural resources, including water and land, and to administer two low-interest revolving loan funds aimed at developing resources and financing new enterprises.

## Marketing and Promotion

UDAF marketing section strengthens Utah's agriculture and allied industries financially by expanding present markets and developing new ones for Utah's agricultural products, locally, in the United States, and overseas as well. It also helps develop new products and production methods and promotes instate processing of Utah agricultural products for a stronger state economy.

Persistent drought conditions in Utah again prompted the USDA to include the state in its Non-fat Dry Milk (NDM) livestock assistance program. For the second year in a row, qualified owners of foundation beef cattle, buffalo, sheep, and goats were eligible to receive the powdered feed supplement that is intended to offset the impact of drought on Utah livestock.



# Commissioner's Office

Homeland security, food safety, biosecurity, insect infestation, and the drought continue to dominate the focus of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF). The department also places high value on its many other ongoing programs such as: marketing and exportation of Utah's own products, predator control, soil conservation, fish health, organics, environmental protection, conservation easements, and weights and measures accuracy. A complete list of services offered by the UDAF is posted on the department's Internet web site at:

<http://ag.utah.gov/services.html>.

The department is working to ensure long term stability and competency in its workforce by updating the compensation offered its employees. A strategy is in place that will help eliminate excess turnover where valuable resources are spent on the training of personnel who eventually take those skills to higher paying positions at other government agencies.

Responding to the challenges resulting from Utah's growing population, the Division of Regulatory Services is embarking on a program to share the cost of food safety inspections, and the testing of mechanical devices used in commerce. A small fee is charged to businesses to offset the cost of helping to keep their measuring or weighing devices accurate and for food safety inspections. This program protects both consumers and merchants.

The prevention of the spread of West Nile Virus (WNV) to horses and humans was one of the goals of the divisions of Plant and Animal Industries. \$500,000 was granted to a number of existing or newly formed mosquito abatement districts to expand mosquito spraying and WNV education. Animal Industry produced a pamphlet, created a CD and added information to the department's Internet web site informing horse owners about WNV.

The threat of agri-terrorism and the possible introduction of a foreign animal disease or pest into the United States make biosecurity a top priority for the department and its six divisions. The Division of Animal Industry was successful in obtaining federal funding to develop a mobile emergency command and communications trailer to respond to any agriculture-related emergency.

As a result of the discovery of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), commonly known as mad cow disease, in a Canadian cow in the state of Washington, the Division of Animal Industry is taking part in a national program that tests certain cattle for BSE. The division also strictly enforces the ban on feeding meat and bone meal to ruminants, which is an important safeguard in the prevention of the spread of BSE.

## The Drought

Six consecutive years of below average rainfall triggered another Governor's Drought Disaster Declaration in 2004. Commissioner Peterson began the process by reporting to Governor Walker that conditions warranted a statewide declaration. "Utah

is in the middle of its current crop year and reservoir levels statewide are well below normal; some are experiencing levels that are virtually non-existent. The vast majority of Utah's farmers and ranchers are suffering a minimum crop loss of 30 percent due to drought and insect infestation. Many of these counties have had the added misfortune of suffering from high winds, hail, flash floods, and fire," he wrote.

In a letter to USDA Secretary of Agriculture, Ann Veneman, Governor Walker stated, "Utah remains one of the hardest hit states by this prolonged drought, and I am asking for immediate assistance from our federal government." The estimated economic impact to Utah's agricultural economy is put at \$133 million.

For the second year in a row, the USDA has including Utah in its Non-fat Dry Milk livestock feed assistance program. The NDM program made more than seven million pounds of the high-protein feed supplement available to qualified Utah ranchers.

As a means to help mitigate drought in Utah, the UDAF took an active role in helping Governor Walker carry out her Watershed Initiative. The initiative stressed the importance of proper watershed management as a tool to improve water quality and quantity in the state.

The Governor and Commissioner Peterson took their watershed message to about 100 Backman Elementary School students who visited the department during National Agriculture Week.

Numerous other watershed improvement projects were conducted throughout the year; such as the Beaver Creek and Chalk Creek restoration projects.

## Public Information Office

The office of Public Information is an important link between the public, industry, employees, and the department. The office publishes various brochures, articles and newsletters as well as creates displays and computer presentations. The office also writes news releases and serves at times as spokesperson for the department.

During the past year, the PIO created public awareness campaigns for many of the department's activities such as homeland



Governor Walker (center) and Commissioner Peterson use a water model to teach students the importance of protecting Utah watersheds.



Kyle R. Stephens  
Deputy Commissioner



security, West Nile Virus, drought assistance programs, Mormon cricket and grasshopper control and the new Registration Program for the Division of Regulatory Services.

The Public Information Office also interacts with local schools, offering students lessons on the connection between the farm and our food.

The PIO also coordinates the department's Critical Agricultural Land Conservation Fund which helps protect Utah farm and ranchland.

### **Agriculture Mediation Program**

The department continues to provide services to the agriculture community through its USDA Certified Mediation Program. The program assists farmers and ranchers who face adverse actions in connection with USDA programs. Utah is one of 33 certified programs and has administered this program since 1988.

### **Agriculture in the Classroom**

The mission of Utah is to increase agricultural literacy in Utah by developing a program that improves student awareness about agriculture and instills in students an appreciation for our food and fiber system. This program is necessary because agriculture affects our quality of life and our environment.

The AITC program receives funds from private donors, state funding sources, and grants. These funds are leveraged to meet the programs mission through teacher training, and classroom materials that effectively and efficiently meet the need to increase agricultural literacy. The following information outlines the accomplishments of the AITC program for 2003.

### **Teacher In-service**

AITC completed its pilot program of its on-line course in the spring and launched a successful course in the fall. At the end of 2003 we had 97 teachers enrolled. They reached 2,910 students with agricultural curricula corresponding with state core curriculum. This course is increasing agricultural literacy.

- Twenty-five orientation face-to-face (3-hour) sessions were conducted statewide.
- Seven social studies (Utah State Office of Education) K-12 Train the Trainer Workshops were conducted involving 205 teachers with agricultural instruction to be used in their classroom.
- Nine districts requested workshops were presented involving 135 teachers.

### **State Agricultural Literacy Testing**

The Utah agriculture literacy testing final report (2003) from Oklahoma State University revealed that AITC trained teachers make a significant positive difference in student acquisition of

knowledge about agriculture. Kindergarten through sixth grade students at each grade grouping taught by AITC trained teachers were most knowledgeable about agriculture in the following themes of the Food and Fiber Systems Literacy (FFSL) Curriculum Framework: Grades K-1, Theme 5 (Food, Nutrition and Health); Grades 2-3, Theme 1 (Understanding Food and Fiber Systems); Grades 4-5, Theme 3 (Science, Technology and Environment); Grade 6, Theme 2 (History, Geography and Culture).

### **Impacts**

- This year 160,000 students were taught with AITC created and statewide mandatory instructional units in science (4th grade soils, 5th grade heredity, 6th grade microorganism, K-6 nutrition, Technology, Life and Careers (7th grade).
- 205 K-12 Social Studies received training with AITC materials
- The final AITC research report, conducted by Oklahoma State University, revealed that Utah students whose teachers had been trained with Utah AITC/FLP materials were significantly more agriculturally literate than teachers who had not been trained. (Fall 03)



Teachers have successfully improved agriculture literacy of Utah students through the Agriculture in the Classroom program (AITC). The Utah AITC reached 160,000 students in 2003, and has gained national recognition.

# Administrative Services

Renee Matsuura  
Director



The goal of Administrative Services is to provide continues, efficient and high-quality administrative support and services to the public and to agency users to assist the over all development of agriculture in Utah. Our motto is to provide exceptional customer service. Information Technology Services

GIS continues to provide decision support for many department programs. Recent projects include studies of several Utah valleys for groundwater vulnerability to pesticide contamination, mapping for the West Nile Virus surveillance program, and data collection for Homeland Security programs.

The department web site provides accurate, up-to-date information to the public. Among other things, individuals and businesses that are licensed by the department can renew their licenses on-line, and users can view the latest information about West Nile Virus in Utah.

The information technology staff is in the process of creating a new registration program to register Weights & Measures devices and Food Establishments. Other programs for the FY05 will be brand renewal on-line and also the ability to register pesticide products on-line.

## Financial Section

In May, USDA conducted an audit of our Meat Inspection Program which is completed every three years. We were complemented on our accounting practices for the grant.

Administrative Services Division continues to use the brand program software that was created a year ago. Continued enhancements are being made to address improvements to the software, and coming along nicely. The elimination of the double entry into the brand program and the department's cash system has increased efficiency. Brand Inspector's submit reports every two weeks to allow fees being collected are being deposited in a timely manner.

This year we have continued to divide the workload more evenly with our accounting staff, making our work more efficient and customer oriented manner. The cross utilization of support staff to become familiar with each other job duties increased support and service to the division's within the department, constituents and customers.

Accounting staff continue to improve their skills, train division employees in regards to purchasing, travel reimbursement guidelines, appropriate invoices to be submitted for processing, and etc.

## Human Resource Management

The Department's Human Resource section supports employees and management in job classification, compensation, recruitment, payroll and leave matters, rules, policies and procedures, employee benefits, Family Medical Leave Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, Employee Assistance Program, Educational Assistance, mediation, new employee orientation and employee training.

In March, 2004, the Department of Human Resource Management implemented a new recruitment system, Utah Job Match. The new program allows an applicant to log-on to [www.statejobs.utah.gov](http://www.statejobs.utah.gov) to view State of Utah government job openings and apply on line for any job that matches their interests and skills. Access to the system is 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The applicant can also track the status of jobs for which they have applied. The UDAF Human Resource staff is trained and using the new system for all job openings.

The UDAF Human Resource Section contacted Public Safety to develop Unlawful Harassment Prevention training on a CD. At a minimum cost to the department, employees were able to take the mandatory Unlawful Harassment Prevention training at their computer.

Staff members serve on the State Training Consortium, the Human Resource Exchange Group, and the Payroll Users Group.





# Animal & Wildlife Damage Prevention

Mike Bodenchuk  
Federal Program Director



The Animal and Wildlife Damage Prevention Services (AWDPS) program provides a wide variety of assistance to agriculture producers suffering from wildlife caused damage. Additionally, The program alleviates damage caused by one wildlife species on another and assists in the creation of a safe environment for humans in rural and urban Utah.

Predation management is an important function of the program in Utah. Predators kill and injure thousands of sheep and calves annually, and the role of the program is to limit that damage to tolerable levels. Working with the livestock industry and applying sound biological principles, AWDPS has established the objectives of limiting predation losses to less than 5 percent of the lambs protected, less than 3 percent of the adult sheep protected and less than 1 percent of the calves protected.

Using professional principles established by wildlife biologists, AWDPS targets offending individuals and offending population areas to bring down losses. The coyote is the number one predator of calves and lambs, and much of our efforts go towards limiting coyote losses without negatively affecting coyote populations or the role they play in the environment. Because most of the losses to lambs are caused by breeding, territorial coyotes, AWDPS's methods target these animals where losses can be expected.

Cougar and bear damage to sheep and cattle can also be excessive, especially in summer months when livestock are grazed in the mountains of Utah. The program targets these individuals when they have already killed livestock and continue to pose a threat for more depredations. AWDPS cooperates with other agencies in confirming damage caused by these two species for a State sponsored compensation program. It also has assisted livestock producers in implementing proven nonlethal methods to limit depredations and has pioneered research in new ways to prevent losses.

Increasing damage to lambs caused by golden eagles is an emerging issue for the program. Most of the damage is caused by immature eagles which migrate through Utah annually in the spring and fall. On their spring migration, these birds, without the need to return to a nesting territory, will concentrate on lambing pastures in high numbers, generally killing one lamb per eagle per day. Under federal permits, AWDPS is able to live-trap depredating eagles and move them to areas away from lambing herds. These eagles, once moved, resume their migration and do not bother lambs the remainder of the season.

AWDPS also assists other segments of agriculture with the control of invasive starlings at feedlots and dairies. In these situations the birds consume livestock feed reducing cattle weight gains or milk production. Crop farmers also benefit from the program's assistance in reducing damage caused by migratory birds. Increasing numbers of Canada geese and sandhill cranes

impact small grain crops, corn and newly planted alfalfa fields. The program assists farmers with the loan of pyrotechnics and materials designed to scare birds from fields. This past year, AWDPS implemented a supplemental feeding trial to alleviate damage caused by sandhill cranes to newly planted corn. Previously, cranes plucked corn seeds and seedlings from the soil to gain the nutrients in the seed. With the supplemental feeding program, cranes were diverted from the fields with feed corn which averted 95 percent of the damage to the crop.

The protection of human safety is also a paramount concern for AWDPS in Utah. The same skills that allow us to effectively target offending coyotes, cougars and bears are often called into play when an attack on a human occurs. AWDPS assists public safety and other wildlife agencies in investigating human safety complaints, evaluating a correct course of action and, in some cases involving direct attacks, in removing offending predators. AWDPS also operates an Urban Wildlife Damage program in Salt Lake County which assists homeowners and business with wildlife conflicts. The vast majority of these conflicts involve raccoons and skunks which have taken up residence in our urban areas. The program helps prevent untold numbers of rabies, distemper and raccoon roundworm cases. The program also responds to numerous urban waterfowl complaints where salmonella and e. coli bacteria build up in droppings. Waterfowl are often captured and moved to managed wetlands where they can live out the summer without causing damage.

AWDPS also assists the traveling public by working with airports and pilots in minimizing the risks associated with birds at airports. While the possibility of an aircraft/bird strike exists anywhere, these strikes often occur at low levels near airports. AWDPS consults with the airport operators to minimize bird numbers on and near the fields, greatly reducing the threats of a strike.

Predation impacts limit some other valuable species of wildlife. The program conducts protection programs for mule deer and pronghorn when their numbers fall critically short of objectives, for sage grouse when they are particularly vulnerable to predation, and for endangered species to support restoration programs. The need for these activities has increased over the past several years, as more attention is paid to interactions between predators and prey.

Wildlife is a valuable, public-held trust. The Animal and Wildlife Damage Prevention program serves as the interface between the interests of humans for a safe productive environment and the desires to have healthy, productive wildlife populations. Managed by professional wildlife biologists, the program will continue to protect human interests and wildlife populations well into the future.

# Ag. Marketing and Conservation

George Hopkin  
Acting Director



The marketing section has as its major objective to assist in the economic development of the states agriculture production sector. The section works with farmers, ranchers and Utah agri business to expand market opportunities, adding value to locally grown commodities, developing new products for market and promoting Utah agriculture in local, national and international markets. The success of these objectives will enable farmers and ranchers to compete in an ever challenging local and export markets.

## **Buy Local**

A major focus of the marketing section is to create and maintain a buy local program while assisting Utah companies in expanding markets nationally and internationally by adding value to Utah produced agriculture products. The Utah Food Strategy Team comprised of volunteer industry leaders continue to utilize their experience and expertise to assist both producers and retailers to promote Utah produced products. The Team had developed and the section has adopted the Utah's Own program including its slogan, Utah's Own – Life at its Best and the Utah's Own logos.

The section continues to help companies in developing marketing strategies and identifying resources to assist them. The section distributes food and agriculture directories to domestic and international audiences through their website and provides opportunities for farmers, ranchers and agri businesses to investigate international markets.

The Internet has become an information highway that assists the division in marketing Utah agriculture and food in both domestic and foreign markets. Contact information on Utah farmers, ranchers and agri businesses is now available through the Department home page and the Utah's Own web site.

## **Local Market Development**

The section continues to assist the sheep industry to accomplish the retail promotion of a Utah lamb product utilizing a Value Added Agriculture Product (VADG) grant from USDA Rural Development Agency (RDA). The grant has enabled Utah lamb producers to create a lamb medallion product with its own distinctive brand, Kings Peak. The effort has progressed to the stage of the advertising effort launched to promote the local lamb product to Utah consumers. The USDA RDA grant provided \$400,000, UDAF Specialty Crop grant \$20,000; Utah Wool growers Association \$20,000; and KSL television \$400,000 to provide funding for the effort.

Integral parts of the Marketing program are farmers markets and certified Organic or "natural" products. Consumer interest in buying fresher and more wholesome, locally grown fruits and vegetables continue to grow. UDAF's Organic Certification program is complimentary to this growing consumer interest and to the marketing program.

## **Utah's Own Program**

The Utah's Own program is designed to provide Utah companies an opportunity to be identified to local consumers. The Utah's Own program, an outgrowth of the Product of Utah program, continues the momentum of the Product of Utah program. Many of the Product of Utah companies have registered with the Utah's Own program while a few other companies will continue to use the Product of Utah logo.

The second Annual Utah's Own Conference in September 2004 is looking for the same success as was accomplished at its first annual conference. The Utah's Own conference in October 2003 brought together over 50 companies and principal retail buyers. In addition to bringing their products to the attention of major retailers, Utah's Own companies also discovered other local products which they could utilize in their production efforts.

The program was originally introduced to consumers through Public Service Announcements and through consumer conferences like Let's Get Cookin!! held in May 2004 and other Salt Lake City activities. The continued development of the local representatives' network will also help the success of the program.

## **International Market Development**

The Marketing Section continues to help Utah farmers, ranchers and agri business reach out to global market opportunities. UDAF staff works with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) in identifying international market opportunities. FAS provides financial resources, commodity expertise and foreign market contracts to help companies develop new global markets. FAS coordinates Agricultural Trade Offices around the world that offers U.S. companies valuable in country assistance.

Congress in 2003 appropriated \$110 million for the Market Access Program (MAP) for 2004 fiscal year to provide cost share monies to eligible companies for global market development. Export market development funds are available through state departments of agriculture or through commodity groups and other industry cooperators participating in MAP.

The allocations of \$110 million was made to 65 U.S. trade organizations to promote U.S. agricultural products overseas under the Market Access Program (MAP). The 2002 Farm Bill provides for significant increases to MAP, more than doubling funding to \$200 million annually by 2006, the first increases to the program since 1996.

The Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA), made up of the thirteen western states, is a coordinated effort to access federal resources and develop regional export programs and initiatives. Utah's high value, consumer oriented food processors are eligible to receive MAP

funds for export development from WUSATA. During FY 2003 04, Utah had two companies that qualified for MAP funding. In addition, the marketing section is assisted in outreach projects in Japan, Korea and Hong Kong assisting Utah and western region companies enter these export markets.

Companies are invited to "Export Readiness" training to participate in one on one discussions with a professional export consultant as well as learn what assistance is available through UDAF and WUSATA.

Marketing also participates in U.S. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc. (USLGE) to assist Utah livestock producers investigate and develop export markets for sheep, beef and dairy genetics. USLGE offers Utah producers a trade organization that coordinates international market development efforts for dairy, sheep, cattle, swine, horses, semen and embryo exports.

The Utah Livestock Directory and targeted cattle directories have been distributed to worldwide audiences. Of major focus is the Northern Mexico market.

### **Great American Food Shows**

The Marketing Section works with Foreign Agriculture Service to identify global opportunities for introducing high quality Utah food and agriculture products through FAS sponsored food shows. Utah companies interested in investigating new international markets are able to participate in organized U.S. Pavilions that attract perspective consumers, importers, wholesalers and retailers.

HOFEX, delayed for a year by SARS epidemic, was held in Hong Kong during February 2004. The Marketing Section attended and assisted Utah companies and 30 other U.S. companies who demonstrated their products to Hong Kong and mainland China food companies.

FOODEX 2004 was held in Tokyo in March of 2004 and reported it to have its largest attendance ever with over 110,000 participants. This Asian food show continued to be the largest Asian food show. The Marketing Section coordinated Utah and WUSATA participation in the U.S. Pavilion and offered "Food Show Plus", a service package aimed to helping participating companies achieve better results. Food Show Plus provided advance translation services, a full time translator in the exhibitor's booth during the show, a Tokyo retail food store tour and some follow up assistance. The service helped over 40 WUSATA region companies to a successful trade show experience. Sweet Candy company participated in HOFEX 2004 and Heber City's Bear Creek Country Kitchens and Redmond's Real Salt participated in FOODEX 2004.

### **North American Agricultural Marketing Officials**

The North American Agricultural Marketing Officials (NAAMO) was organized in 1921 to allow state agricultural marketing representatives to share ideas, improve state cooperation and develop new marketing ideas. Today, the association has broadened its focus to include both domestic and international marketing and has expanded membership to include Canada and Mexico. Current membership stands at over 50 members from the U.S. States and Canadian Provinces. Utah is a long time member of NAAMO and participates in all of its

conferences. Conferences provide presentations on marketing activities from Canada, Mexico and the U.S. In addition, valuable information is shared between the countries and their federal government representatives.

### **Utah Food Strategy Team**

The Utah Food Strategy Team continues in operation entering its third year of operation during 2004. The Team operates with funding from two RMA grants. One grant is administered by Drake University of Des Moines, Iowa as part of the National Food Policy program. The other grant is administered through the Southwest Marketing Network (SWMN) of Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food became an active member of SWMN during 2003. The SWMN is comprised of membership from four states, Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. The network strives to ensure that new, existing, and prospective Southwest producers—especially small scale, alternative, and minority producers—have a connection with others for technical and financial assistance, marketing information, business and marketing skills, and peer examples needed to improve their marketing success as a means of improving their profitability, viability, and bottom line.

### **Junior Livestock Shows**

The Division administers the legislative mandated and funded program that assists the State's junior livestock shows. Using an agreed upon formula, funds are allocated to shows to promote youth involvement and offer a quality educational experience. The Utah Junior Livestock Shows Association has developed rules with which shows and youth participants must comply to qualify for State assistance. The funding provided by the legislature must be used for awards to FFA and 4 H youth participants and not for other show expenses. During the past year, 18 junior shows were awarded funds to assist in this youth development program.

### **Market News Reporting**

The Market News Section provides accurate and unbiased price information, critical to agriculture and agribusiness in decision making. Market information is disseminated through print media, broadcast media, call in service and summary mailer. Market information is available on the Department's worldwide web site that attracts over 2,000 hits per month. The division monitors livestock auctions in Cedar City, Salina, Spanish Fork and Ogden. In addition, alfalfa hay buyer and seller information is compiled to provide similar market information.

### **Soil Conservation**

The soil conservation section helps enable Utah's private land managers to protect and enhance their soil, water and related natural resources. Agricultural managers are still the majority holders of private lands in the state. Their positive land management actions results in many short and long-term public benefits. This section strives to help create a political environment where representatives of private land managers can direct the local state national land and watershed conservation

and development programs in a voluntary, incentive based process.

The section provides staff support to the Utah Soil Conservation Commission (USCC), which is chaired by Commissioner Peterson. This Commission is a policy making body of the state that coordinates, develops and supports soil and water conservation initiatives and programs. The USCC directs financial and administrative support to Utah's 38 Soil Conservation Districts (SCD). These districts are local units of government charged by state law to help private land managers protect soil, water and related natural resources. This Commission and the districts work closely with their conservation partners, especially state and federal natural resource agencies, to help solve land and water resource challenges.

The USCC and the Department are responsible to conduct biennial elections for members on each of the 38 SCD Boards. There were three positions in each SCD whose election was carried out during 2003-04 fiscal year. Candidates are selected locally by a nominating committee or by public petition. Ballots are mailed to an updated list of primary land managers and citizens who request a ballot. Public notice was given prior to the various election processes so those having an interest in the elections could be involved. Over 12,000 ballots were mailed with an average of 38% return. Those elected took office on March 15, 2004 to a four year term of office. The Department's Information Technology professionals developed a new MS Access computer program to manage the election mailing list and help with the various election processes. It helped improve the efficiency of this election.

The USCC working through the Department has on going memoranda agreements and contractual arrangements with the SCD's state association, the Utah Association of Conservation Districts (UACD), to provide administrative support to the districts and technical assistance to private land owners. See <http://www.uacd.org/> to learn more about UACD. Technical assistance provided by UACD and the SCDs augment the support that has historically been provided by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) agency. Project planning, implementation and resource protection applied to the land is tracked and documented.

The USCC with staff support from the Department has the legal responsibility to administer the state's Agriculture Resource Development Loan (ARDL) program. The USCC has developed an administrative structure for the ARDL program so local SCDs are able to promote and benefit from ARDL projects within their boundaries. Administrative ARDL policies are kept current by the USCC. Most of the results of resource protection funded by the ARDL program are included in NRCS PRMS described above since most projects also receive Federal financial grants.

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food continues to administer the agricultural and information and education portions of the state's nonpoint source (NPS) pollution control program, which is funded largely through section 319 of the Clean Water Act.

UDAF Continues to participate in the Utah Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Strategy coordinating committee. The animal feeding operation (AFO) assessment process has concluded, with nearly 3,000 operations assessed.

Nearly 400 operations were determined to have runoff problems that needed to be addressed. UDAF is currently assisting in the process to develop and implement plans to fix those problems.

UDAF manages agricultural NPS watershed projects in several areas of Utah. Work is winding down in the highly successful Chalk Creek project in Summit County. At the same time, the Beaver River watershed project is making great progress. Other efforts along the Sevier River and East Fork Sevier River are becoming more prominent. The Utah Nonpoint Source Conference in September 2004 features a watershed tour of portions of the Upper Sevier and East Fork Sevier River.

UDAF continues to direct the information and education programs of the Utah NPS Task Force. UDAF employees chair and serve on the Utah Nonpoint Conference planning committee. Utah continues to co-chair a national committee working on NPS outreach issues. UDAF's NPS public information specialist has been using a national training course he helped create to teach local watershed committees in Utah techniques and methods designed to improve local outreach, information and education efforts.

Finally, UDAF serves a prominent role in the Governor's Watershed Initiative. In November 2003, Utah Governor Olene Walker started a watershed initiative as part of her goals for her year in office. One of the main components of the initiative is to double the number of Adopt-A-Waterbody volunteer groups in Utah. UDAF works jointly on the Adopt-A-Waterbody program with the Utah Division of Water Quality, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and Utah State University Extension.

So far in late 2003 and early 2004, Governor Walker, Lt. Gov. Gayle Mackeachnie, Utah Commissioner of Agriculture Cary G. Peterson, and several other dignitaries and agency leaders have participated in education and watershed improvement projects with volunteers.

### **Groundwater well testing**

The Department's agricultural groundwater, well testing and rangeland monitoring programs continue to grow and flourish. Electronic annual reports about each program are available on the Department's web site: <http://www.ag.utah.gov/>; select either the "Ground Water Program" icon or the "Rangeland Monitoring" link under "Find It Fast".

In 2003, the groundwater-sampling program collected around 300 samples from all seven Utah Association of Conservation Districts zones. The samples were tested for a variety of parameters including electrical conductivity, temperature, pH, hardness, sodium and bacteria.

None of the samples contained pesticide residues. Bacteria continued to be a problem throughout the state, more wells tested positive for coliform bacteria in 2003 than in 2002. In 2003 thirty percent of the wells tested had measurable coliform. Of that number, six percent tested positive for E. coli.

The rangeland-monitoring program now has its annual reports from 1996 to 2003 available in hardcopy, on CD-ROM and on the Internet. During 2003 the focus was on the south western region of the state. This includes all or parts of Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Millard, Piute, San Pete, and Washington counties. The rangeland monitoring program has developed a new tool

that estimates range condition. Range condition has always been subjective; this tool uses data collected by the monitoring team and will be valuable for rangeland managers.

### **Low Cost Loan Programs**

The division is responsible for several loan programs to help the agriculture community and others achieve various worthwhile goals for productivity, efficiency and environmental benefits for the people of Utah. At present the division has portfolios totaling more than one thousand loans with total assets of more than \$34 million. The quality of the portfolios is very high with low delinquencies and a history of minimal losses. The division cooperates with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in managing one loan program to finance loans for remediation of underground petroleum storage tanks and participates with that agency in underwriting loans for water quality using funds from the State Revolving Fund. Cooperation with other departments of government provides for greater efficiency with minimized duplication of effort and provides the taxpayers with more efficiency in government.

**Agriculture Resource and Development Loan (ARDL) Program.** This program is the largest portfolio, consisting of about 900 loans and nearly \$20 million outstanding. The program is managed by the division for the Utah Soil Conservation Commission in cooperation with the soil conservation districts throughout the state. The various purposes of the loans are to finance improvements for landowners to provide for greater efficiencies in agriculture operations, range improvements, water and soil conservation, disaster assistance and environmental quality. The loans are written for a maximum of twelve year terms at three percent interest and carry a four percent administration fee that goes directly to the Utah Association of Conservation Districts (UACD) to help finance their operations. The program is a revolving fund which is growing at the rate of about \$1 million per year.

**Rural Rehabilitation Loan Programs.** These programs, funded by both state and federal monies, total more than \$7 million, and consist of about 75 loans. The purpose for these loans is to help financially troubled producers stay in business, to assist beginning farmers in obtaining farm or ranch property and to provide financing for transfer of agriculture properties from one generation to another. They are essentially loans of last resort requiring that applicants be declined by conventional commercial lenders. Terms range up to a maximum of ten years, and interest rates are five percent or less.

**Petroleum Storage Tank (PST) Loans.** This program is managed for DEQ to provide financing for property owners who have underground storage tanks that require removal, replacement or repair. The portfolio consists of about 40 loans totaling about \$1 million. Loans are made for up to \$45,000 for a maximum ten year term at three percent interest.

The division is cooperating with DEQ's Division of Water Quality to finance projects for eliminating or reducing non-point source water pollution on private lands. That program has recently become operational.





# Animal Industry

Dr. Michael R. Marshall  
Director



The Animal Industry Division of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food has six main programs:

- 1) Animal Health – focused on prevention and control of animal diseases, with special attention to diseases that can be transmitted to humans.
- 2) Meat and Poultry Inspection — to assure wholesome products for consumers.
- 3) Livestock Inspection (brand registration and inspection) — to offer protection to the livestock industry through law enforcement.
- 4) Fish Health — protecting the fish health in the state and dealing with problems of fish food production and processing.
- 5) Elk Farming and Elk Hunting Parks
- 6) Organic Food Program / Investigation and Compliance

## Animal Health

Disease free status was maintained in the following disease categories: \*Brucellosis \*Tuberculosis \*Scabies \*Pseudorabies \*Salmonella pullorum \*Mycoplasma gallisepticum

Disease monitoring programs that have continued from prior years include those for heartworm, equine encephalitis, equine infectious anemia, rabies, brucellosis, tuberculosis, pseudorabies, salmonella sp., mycoplasma sp., West Nile Virus, etc.

The Division participated in a West Nile Virus Surveillance program in partnership with the Utah Department of Health, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and the Utah Mosquito Abatement Association. The Division of Animal Industry role was to promote and monitor surveillance for WNV in horses. The Division paid for the laboratory cost of testing 94 suspected cases and a total of 34 horses in six counties were diagnosed positive for WNV. The Division also produce an updated pamphlet alerting horse owners concerning this disease, updated our website, and a developed a training CD on West Nile Virus.

The BLM gathered 268 free ranging horses in the Hill Creek area at the request of the Division and monitoring for Equine Infectious Anemia and West Nile Virus revealed no cases in that area. The absence of any new cases of EIA in the Uintah Basin wild horse herds culminates an aggressive and successful effort on the part of the Division to eliminate the reservoir of that disease that has threatened the domestic and wild horse population in the Uintah Basin for the past decade.

The Division has actively promoted various Health Assurance Programs and has served to certify participants. Such programs as Utah Egg Quality Assurance Program, Utah Cattle Health Assurance Program, Johnes' Disease Surveillance, Beef Quality Assurance, Trichomoniasis testing, the National Poultry Improvement Plan, and others are included in this effort. Division veterinarians met with the various livestock enterprise groups, farm organizations, veterinary associations and other groups in the state to receive input concerning their needs and to acquaint them with new programs. An annual training session for Utah

Egg Quality Assurance Program participants is offered and semiannual farm visits are made by Division veterinarians to verify compliance. Nearly 17,000 ear tags were issued to veterinarians for use in the Trichomoniasis testing program. Testing identified 51 infected bulls in 13 counties in 2002. A single herd accounted for 20 of those infected bulls. Citations for non-compliance were issued to four individuals.

The Division was involved early in establishing a Johnes' Disease Advisory Committee, adopting the standards of the Voluntary Johnes' Disease Herd Status Program, and seeking funding from the legislature to establish the program in Utah. As a result of these efforts over 3 years ago, the state qualified for a grant of \$150,000 from USDA for funding of the program in 2003. Division veterinarians have certified 37 private veterinarians to perform Risk Assessments and develop Management Plans for participating herds. The funding also pays for testing in those herds and other program expenses. This is a significant benefit for Utah producers.

The Division veterinarians monitored livestock exports and imports into the state by reviewing over 10,000 incoming Certificates of Veterinary Inspection and over 1,200 livestock entry permits were issued. More than 280 violations of Utah import regulations were investigated, and 5 citations were issued with fines totaling \$790. Over 18,000 Certificates of Veterinary Inspection for interstate movement of animals were received from Utah veterinarians. These documents were monitored, filed, and forwarded to our Animal Health counterparts in the states of destination.

The division is responsible for licensing hatcheries, qualified feedlot operators, and swine garbage feeders in the state. The number of hatcheries in the state continues to increase in the game bird industry and now numbers 24 licensed hatcheries. The division also administers the National Poultry Improvement Plan in the state and there are now 8 participants. Participants in the program enjoy significant benefits when shipping birds, eggs, and products in commerce.

The Division was heavily involved in responding to the Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) outbreak in California this year. The outbreak extended to Arizona and Nevada, threatening our poultry and turkey industries at our southern borders. Public outreach, encouragement of industry to implement biosecurity measures, and enforcement of quarantines were successful in preventing the entry of this foreign animal disease (FAD) to Utah. One of our field veterinarians volunteered to serve a tour of duty in California during that outbreak.

The Division has maintained a cooperative agreement with FDA for the past 3 years to monitor 33 licensed feed manufacturers in the state for enforcement of the ban on feeding meat and bone meal to ruminants. This is an important fire-wall

to prevent the amplification of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in our cattle population, if the disease were to gain entry to this country. The importance of this monitoring was emphasized when a Canadian cow was discovered to be infected with BSE in Washington State in December 2003. The discovery of that imported cow with BSE will prompt renewed efforts in that area as well as changes in meat inspection policy and a national animal identification program.

Homeland Security has again been a focus of the Division in 2002. The threat of agri-terrorism and the possibility of foreign animal diseases, such as BSE, END, and FMD, being introduced to the state make this a top priority. The Division was successful in obtaining federal funding for developing a mobile emergency response capability. A mobile response trailer has been purchased and equipped. The Division has offered training and consultation in biosecurity measures to various groups and state agencies.

The Animal Health section has the responsibility of providing veterinary supervision and service to the livestock auction markets in Utah in furtherance of our disease control and monitoring programs. More than 500 weekly livestock sales conducted by 8 licensed and bonded sale yards in the state were serviced under this program. Division veterinarians also provided oversight for veterinarians and technicians involved with brucellosis vaccinations.

### **Meat Inspection**

The number of Utah inspected meat processing facilities throughout the state has grown slightly this past year. We have added three new processing facilities to our fully inspected state plants list. Our staff is periodically asked to review and assist new plant managers in preparation of facilities to come under state meat inspection. We work to allow these individuals the opportunity to produce meat products in a clean, well built, and sanitarily maintained facility that fits the minimal requirements established by the U.S.D.A.

The use of computers and software systems continues to make our jobs easier and more efficient. The front line inspector has at his fingertips all the meat regulations and notices and receives updates almost weekly. Information from the office can be passed on to each of the inspectors in minutes compared to trying to pass the information via the telephone or mail. Computers we are currently using were purchased in 1999. By the end of 2004, we hope to have the Inspection System Procedures (ISP) System installed so that every inspector in the state plants will be on the system so the individual inspector can download the Inspection System Task Codes and upload the completed tasks for the plant that he/she is inspecting.

Microbiological testing has been and continues to be an important element in verifying that the HACCP process of inspection is working as intended. A total of 528 samples were collected by the meat inspection staff and tested for Salmonella sp. 111 samples were collected from Ready To Eat (RTE) products and tested for Salmonella, E. coli, and Listeria. In addition, the individual plants collected 288 samples for generic E. coli testing. All samples were negative. In December 2003 Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) or commonly known as mad cow disease, was found in a cow in the state of Washington, when

the brain stem was tested, a new set of regulations was put into place by USDA to make sure the meat the consumers buy is free of BSE. One phase of the BSE rule stated that plants can no longer slaughter non-ambulatory cattle called downer cattle. At the beginning of 2003 it was a federal requirement for each slaughter plant, to have an antimicrobial program in place to help eliminate harmful pathogen on cattle carcasses.

During the past year, over 3,744 hours of training have been given to our staff. We feel that this training is vital in the effort to keep a highly trained and knowledgeable inspection staff. In the future, an even greater emphasis will be placed on training.

### **UDAF Fish Health Program**

By the end of 2003, 34 commercial aquaculture facilities (19 facilities with live fish sales, 14 facilities with dead fish sales, one fish processing plant, and two combined fish processing plants and dead fish sales) and 118 fee fishing facilities were registered with the UDAF; this is a 14% increase in licensed fee fishing facilities over 2002. There are four commercial growers actively involved in fish brokering. Twenty-two new applications, (twenty fee fishing sites and two aquaculture sites) were filed this year. This shows the increased interest in aquaculture in Utah. Two aquaculture facilities were closed for live fish sales due to whirling disease. One facility was closed due to the finding of PKD. Implementation of two biosecurity and health safety plans were begun in 2003 in an effort to prevent the spread of whirling disease. This makes a total of seven biosecurity plans being implemented in the state. The number of species approval requests was 30. This was comparable to last year.

Services extended to clients and the public include: Eighty on-site and off-site consultations and distribution of information on aquaculture and fish diseases; on-site water quality tests conducted at 21 sites; Twenty-six diagnostic cases involving fish losses, water quality, or disease analysis work were conducted (histology, bacteriology, parasitology, water quality, pesticide/heavy metals); issuing and renewing CORs to aquaculture facilities, fee fishing, brokering, and fish processing plants; inspecting eleven species of fish and shellfish at 24 facilities including over 2,013 fish sampled; 405 samples examined for largemouth bass virus; 660 samples examined for Ceratomyxa shasta; 60 samples examined for PKX; 60 samples examined for Mycobacterium; 159 samples examined for spring viremia of carp; 120 samples examined for channel catfish virus; 5 samples examined for Cherax quadricarinatus baculovirus; 65 samples examined for Oncorhynchus masou virus; 1,463 for whirling disease; 385 warm water fish); exotic snail identification work; issuing 46 fish health approvals. Sixty-eight entry permits were issued for twenty-one species of aquatic animals for a total of 3,494,999 fish and eggs and 58,607 lbs. of fish imported into Utah. This is a 20% increase in entry permits over 2002.

One issue of Aquaculture in Utah newsletter was published in 2003. Articles dealt with proliferative kidney disease in Utah, PCR used as a confirmatory test for WD, biosecurity protocol for fish farms, safe storage of fish feed, drought assistance to farmers, omega-3 fatty acids and good health, pond algae destroyed using an ultrasonic device, ammonia and pH interaction, and some excellent fish recipes.

One major investigation of rule infractions was undertaken in 2003. The number of Fish Health Policy Board meetings attended was four. The number of nuisance species meetings attended was three. Two national meetings of fish disease significance were attended. The Fish Health Program participates in continuing education lectures and presentations to enhance and promote the knowledge of fish health and aquaculture.

The Program is dedicated to the continuous improvement of fish health programs, reduction of unnecessary paperwork, customer satisfaction and remaining within the budget. It is the primary aim of the Fish Health Program to prevent and control the spread of fish diseases and still assist aquaculture operators to succeed in business. Specialists work overtime to complete these tasks, and this is done within current budget constraints.

### **Livestock Inspection**

The Livestock (Brand) Inspection Bureau consists of 14 full-time special function officers and 50 part-time inspectors. Their job is to protect the Utah livestock industry from accidental straying or intentional theft of livestock. In addition to inspecting all cattle and horses at the state's eight weekly auctions, field inspections are done on all livestock prior to changing ownership, leaving the state and going to slaughter.

During 2003, a total of 634,500 individual cattle, horses and elk were inspected. Livestock worth an estimated \$1.2 million was returned to their proper owners. This was a reduction in animals inspected from the previous year due to the statewide drought. It was noted that the same number of producers were in operation, but most had reduced their herd size due to summer grazing conditions.

The brand bureau presently has about 24,000 brands and earmarks on file in the "Central Brand Registry." As mandated by law, these brands must be renewed every five years to keep information current. The next scheduled renewal will be done during 2005.

In addition to each brand owner being listed in the Brand Book, the department issued everyone a laminated wallet-size proof of ownership card. The ownership card is intended for use during travel and when selling animals at auctions. The new Brand Book will be available for purchase by the public at a cost of \$25.00 early in 2006. In addition to this, the Brand Bureau is actively involved in tying the existing brand program to the new National Animal Identification plan, where each livestock owner will be issued a premise I.D. number by 2006 and each animal will need to be individually identified.

The brand department started collecting the cattlemen's part of predator control money in 1996. During 2003, livestock inspectors collected \$110,000 in predator control money. This money, like the beef promotion money, which has been collected by the brand inspectors for many years, will simply be forwarded to the Wildlife Services Program for its use. Sheep men will continue to have their allotment collect by the wool houses and forwarded to the department.

In an effort to assist and give training to the state's port-of-entry personnel, a livestock inspector was assigned to work monthly in each port-of-entry. These inspectors are authorized and equipped to chase down those livestock transporters who ignore the signs requiring all livestock hauling vehicles to stop.

This is an effort to help prevent diseased animals from entering the state and stolen animals from leaving the state. A new port-of-entry was added in 1998 in Loma, Colorado on I-70.

A heightened awareness in the meat industry has also resulted in the upgrading of the Farm Custom Slaughter Program to insure that meat derived from home grown, non-inspected livestock is prepared under the best conditions possible.

The killing of "downer" non-ambulatory animals has been eliminated from this program due to the BSE positive cow found in Washington State December 23, 2003.

Finally, the brand inspectors were instrumental in the distribution of Non-fat Dry Milk to many livestock men throughout the state in 2003. They also continued to monitor the states 46 elk farms and 6 hunting parks.

### **Elk Farming and Hunting Parks**

During the 1997 legislative session, the Domestic Elk Farming bill was passed allowing the farming of domestic elk on an individual's property. The brand bureau has been asked to regulate this new industry. In 1999, an amendment to the original law allows the licensing of domestic elk hunting parks. Livestock inspectors are involved in the inspection of new facilities and elk as they come and go from each licensed farm or park. They help verify identification, ownership, health, and genetic purity of every animal. Within the first five years of the passage of this law 42 new farms and six hunting parks have been licensed with a total of 2181 elk on inventory. An eight-member elk advisory council was formed to make recommendations and give direction to this industry.

### **Investigation and Compliance/ Organic Certification**

The Agriculture Investigator is responsible to protect the Utah producers and consumers of agricultural products. The Investigator works with local city, county, and state authorities to enforce the statutes and regulations assigned to agriculture. In conjunction with the Attorney Generals Office and the Division Directors, the specialist reviews actions for Administrative Hearings, and makes recommendations for actions of compliance. The specialist visits livestock auctions, regulates actions of dealers of agricultural products and gathers information for the proper licensing and bonding of dealers, auctions and brokers. The 2003 legislative session added a requirement for an annual report to be filed by dealers of agricultural commodities. That report has been mailed to all active dealers, and the information is being reviewed for proper bonding values and requirements.

The organic program certified 31 operations in 2003. There has been a significant growth in organic production in Utah. Utah will certify crops, livestock and processing facilities including organic beef, lamb, fruits and vegetables, coffee and grains. Utah was approved in February Of 2004 as a State Organic Program, which assumes the responsibility of enforcement for the United States Department of Agriculture National Organic Program in Utah. Investigators will continue surveillance at grocery stores, roadside stands, and farmers markets to ensure that products labeled as Organic meet the requirements and certification standards.

# Chemistry Laboratory



Dr. David H. Clark  
Director

Laboratory Services operates as a service for various divisions within the Department of Agriculture and Food. The division laboratories provide chemical, physical, and microbiological analyses. All samples analyzed in the laboratories are collected and forwarded by various field inspection personnel from the Divisions of Plant Industry, Regulatory Service, Animal Health, and Marketing and Conservation Programs.

Feed, fertilizer, meat and meat products, pesticide formulation, and dairy products are tested for specific ingredients as stated by the associated label guarantee. Some products are also examined for the presence of undesirable materials, such as filth, insects, rodent contamination, adulterants, inferior products, and pesticide residues.

The Dairy Microbiology Laboratory is responsible for testing grade A raw milk, finished dairy products, and administers an industry laboratory certification program. The laboratory is certified by FDA to perform the following tests: standard plate and coliform counts; microscopic and electric somatic cell determinations; antibiotic residues, proper pasteurization; and fat and water content. The laboratory is also certified as the FDA Central Milk Laboratory for the State of Utah, and our supervisor serves as the State Milk Laboratory Evaluation Officer (LEO) which has jurisdiction over the certified milk labs within the State. Last year there are 23 facilities with 120 analysts under the LEO's jurisdiction. The LEO is responsible for on-site evaluation and training of all certified analysts throughout the State and along with the dairy laboratory staff, and administers a yearly proficiency testing program for all industry analysts.

The Meat Laboratory analyzes meat and meat product samples obtained during inspections of plant and processing facilities that conform to Federal and State standards. Tests are made for fat, moisture, protein, sulfites, and added non-meat products to ensure label compliance of these products. Antibiotic residues and cross-contamination from other species are also monitored. We also analyze samples from Montana Department of Agriculture when requested. Samples (meat and carcass swabs) from processing facilities are also tested for the presence of Salmonella on a monthly basis.

The Pesticide Formulation Laboratory's function is testing herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, and fungicides to ensure that the listing of active ingredients and their concentrations are in compliance with state labeling laws. The Pesticide Residue Laboratory tests for presence and subsequent levels of herbicide,

insecticide, rodenticide, and fungicide residues in plants, fruits, vegetables, soil, water, and milk products. These samples are submitted when inspectors suspect there may be a misuse of the application of the pesticide. Milk samples are tested once a year to for pesticide contamination in accordance with FDA regulations.

Commercial feed (agricultural and pet) samples are tested for moisture, protein, fat, fiber, minerals, toxins, antibiotics, and vitamins in the Feed Laboratory. Seed moisture determinations are also performed for the State Seed Laboratory. The Fertilizer Laboratory tests solid and liquid fertilizer samples for nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and trace elements, and heavy metals. All feed and fertilizer results are compared to label guarantees to ensure compliance with state labeling laws.

Special Consumer Complaint Samples are also examined for the presence of undesirable materials such as filth, insects, rodent contamination and adulterations. The samples are checked to verify validity of complaint, and if found positive, the matter is turned over to departmental Compliance Officers for follow up action.

Ground and Surface Waters are monitored for the presence for pesticides, nitrates, and we also test for 25 elements and other water quality related parameters. This data is combined with other water data collected in the field to provide a picture on the quality of the state aquifers.

## Accomplishments:

As shown in the accompanying table, number of tests declined for some products, which is due to budgetary cutbacks. Number of surveys by inspectors has been reduced with a subsequent reduction in number of samples submitted for testing. We continue to provide a monitoring program for food safety and the number of salmonella and pesticide tests increased considerably. We partner with the FDA ELEXNET system by providing salmonella test results.

The dairy laboratory completed their FDA split sample audit with no deficiencies noted. Currently, there are twenty-two (23) facilities with 133 analysts under the LEO's jurisdiction. The increase in dairy tests was due to more bottles being tested.

No pesticides have been detected in dairy producer samples collected last year and the ground water samples have shown a similar trend.

In spite of budget shortfalls, we continue to try and update equipment to ensure optimum results and compliance with legislative mandates.

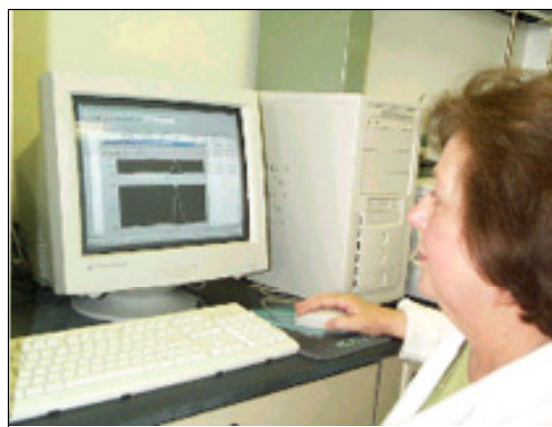
Meetings with chemists and supervisors from the different divisions continue to be held to discuss status of ongoing programs, problems that are arising, new program needs, and changes due to budget shortfalls.

The division continues to perform very well on the check sample programs administered for milk, meat, feeds, fertilizers, and pesticide residue and formulation programs.

The following is a breakdown of sample analyses performed in the various programs in the Laboratory Services Division for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003.

	2001	2002	2003
Federal Meat	84	423	255
State Meat	1,033	1,058	1,146
Montana Meat Samples	11	122	85
Dairy Microbiology	9,787	8,846	9,588
Fertilizer	714	739	645
Feed	1,335	1,491	1,407
Pesticide Formulation	23	9	11
Pesticide Residue	18	29	18
Special Samples	22	81	35
State Groundwater	31,790	31,029	23,682
Pesticide Residue in Milk	9,553	2,850	11,670
Salmonella	<u>238</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>308</u>
TOTAL	54,608	46,839	48,850

In addition to the above analytical work, the staff typically performs anywhere from 5000-7000 determinations on various check samples. The check sample programs are vital and essential for maintaining quality control, quality assurance, and verifying accuracy of results on routine samples. These check samples are also used to help develop new procedures.



(above) UDAF Chemistry Laboratory uses state of the art computer technology to analyze various test samples. The addition of computers improves productivity and reduces the hazards associated with working with harsh chemicals.





# Plant Industry

G. Richard Wilson  
Director



The Division of Plant Industry is responsible for ensuring consumers of disease free and pest free plants, grains, seeds, as well as properly labeled agricultural commodities, and the safe application of pesticides and farm chemicals.

## Entomological Activities

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food currently administers nine insect and plant quarantines, which require inspection and enforcement by the State Entomologist. Effective enforcement demands cooperation with federal agencies and regulatory officials of other states and countries. Quarantines currently in effect are for European Corn Borer, Gypsy Moth, Apple Maggot, Plum Curculio, Cereal Leaf Beetle, Pine Shoot Beetle, Japanese Beetle, Mint Wilt and Karnal bunt.

During 2003, there was approximately 502 State and Federal Phytosanitary Certificates issued under the direction of the State Entomologist. These certificates allow Utah companies to ship plants and plant products to other states and foreign countries. The State Entomologist also responded to more than 300 public requests for professional advice and assistance.

The State Entomologist administers the Utah Bee Inspection Act (Title 4, Chapter 11), the Insect Infestation Emergency Control Act, and various entomological services under authority of Title 4, Chapter 2. Major functions performed during 2003 are summarized below:

### Apple Maggot and Cherry Fruit Fly

The Apple Maggot survey and detection program in Utah requires the efforts of the State Entomologist, one program supervisor, three field scouts and necessary secretarial help. The program was implemented to provide for our continued participation in export markets. In 2003 six hundred (600), traps were used in the adult survey. Since the programs beginning in 1985 property owners are contacted annually on orchard spray management techniques and removal of un-cared for and abandoned orchards. Tree removal during 2003 exceeded 2000 trees in abandoned orchards.

### Bee Inspection

The Utah Bee Inspection Act provides for inspection of all apiaries annually in order to detect and prevent the spread of infectious bee diseases. Without a thorough inspection program, highly contagious diseases could spread rapidly, resulting in serious losses to the bee industry in Utah with corresponding losses to fruit and seed crop producers who are dependant on bees for pollination. During 2003, thirteen thousand (13,000) colonies of bees were inspected with the incidence of disease below 2.5 percent.

## African Honey Bee

A survey and detection program for African Honey Bee has been in effect for the southern border areas of Utah since 1994. Early detection supported with information and education will be a major defense mechanism against this devastating and alarming insect. Considerable education and public awareness activity has occurred since the African Honey Bee was discovered in Mesquite, Nevada in the summer of 1999. No African Honey Bees have been found in Utah to date.

## Cereal Leaf Beetle

Cereal Leaf Beetle was discovered in Morgan County in 1984. It has since been found in fourteen counties of northern Utah. Because Cereal Leaf Beetle can cause a reduction in small grain production up to 75 percent, and domestic grain markets require insect free shipments, the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food in cooperation with Utah State University conducts an annual survey and detection program for this insect. A cooperative insectary program with USU has provided beneficial parasitic wasps that prey on Cereal Leaf Beetle. These beneficial parasites have now spread to all northern Utah counties helping to reduce populations significantly.

## Gypsy Moth

Gypsy Moths were first found in Salt Lake City in the summer of 1988. Since that time the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food has been the lead agency in the administration of a major bio-control program that has had a 97% success rate. Moth catches have been reduced from 2,274 in 1989 to two (2) in 2003. The major benefits of this program are: Cost effectiveness, Public nuisance reduction, Forest and natural resource protection, and Watershed protection.

## Cricket/Grasshopper

The 2003 Fall Rangeland Insect Survey was completed the last week of August. Information from this survey indicates that we may have 725,900 acres infested with grasshoppers in 2004, and possibly 2,710,000 acres infested with Mormon Crickets. The information from the fall 2003 survey indicates the population of both grasshoppers and Mormon Crickets may infest 3.4 million acres in 2004. Insect damages ranging upwards of 22.5 million dollars may be expected again this year. Large populations of these voracious insects in 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003 prompted the Governors Declaration of Agricultural Disaster.

## Fertilizer Program

Administration of the Utah Commercial Fertilizer Act (Title 4, Chapter 13). The program regulates the registration, distribution, sale, use, and storage of fertilizer products. It

regulates, and licenses fertilizer blenders and monitors the applicators that spray or apply fertilizer and take samples for analysis.

Major functions performed in this program in 2003.

Fertilizer manufacturers/registrants	232
Products received and registered	2312
Products registered because of investigations	25
Fertilizers sampled, collected, and analyzed	214
Number of samples that failed to meet guarantee	5
Guarantee analysis corrected	5
Inspection visits to establishments	575
Violations of the fertilizer Act	2
Blenders licensed	31

#### Pesticide Product Registration Program

##### 1. EMERGENCY USE PERMITS (Section 18).

1998	- 1	2001	- 3
1999	- 2	2002	- 3
2000	- 2	2003	- 3

##### 2. SPECIAL LOCAL NEEDS (SLN).

3 SLN labels filed in 2003

##### 3. EXPERIMENTAL USE PERMIT (EUP)

2003 - 0

#### Pesticide Product Registration

Pesticide manufacturers or registrants:	876
Pesticide products registered:	9,341
Products registered as a result of investigation:	325
Violations of the Pesticide Act	25
Product registration requests:	55

#### Nursery Inspection Program

Number of licenses issued to handlers of Nursery stock	610
Number of Nursery Inspections conducted	775
Number of violations of the Nursery Act	34

#### USDA Private Applicator Restricted Use

##### Pesticide Record Program

Number private applicators records surveyed	100
Percent private applicators using RUP's products	55%
Percentage of elements recorded as required	100%
Percentage of private applicators without records	0

#### Shipping Point and Cannery Grading Program

PRODUCE	Number of Inspections	Pounds Inspected
Three Party Audit	5	
Apples, cherries, onions and peaches		
Cherries, Sweet	46	872,610
Peaches	2	63,584
Onions	372	11,113,930
TOTALS	425	12,050,124

#### Pesticide Program

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food administers the Utah Pesticide Control Act, which regulates the registration and use of pesticides in Utah. This Act authorizes pesticide registration requirements and the pesticide applicator certification

program. The UDAF is the lead state agency for pesticide use enforcement under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). The UDAF administers sections of FIFRA under which programs are developed and implemented by cooperative grant agreements with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These programs include the Worker Protection Program, Endangered Species Program, Ground Water/Pesticide Protection Program, Certification Program, and Pesticide Enforcement.

#### Worker Protection Program

This program provides general training, worker and handler pesticide safety training, "train the trainer" program, training verification, outreach and communication efforts, reporting and tracking, and performance review actions. The UDAF has adopted the national Worker Protection Standards (WPS) Verification Program and distributes WPS Worker and Handler Verification cards to qualified WPS trainers and does WPS training as necessary.

#### Endangered Species Pesticide Program

Utah has developed an Endangered Species Pesticide Plan. This plan allows the state to provide protection for federally listed species from pesticide exposure while tailoring program requirements to local conditions and the needs of pesticide users. Utah's plan focuses on the use of pesticides as they relate to the protection of threatened and endangered species on private agricultural land and lands owned and managed by state agencies. The UDAF is the lead state authority responsible for administering the plan. Through an interagency review committee, special use permits or landowner agreements can be established to allow for the continued use of certain restricted pesticides for those locations that contain threatened and endangered species.

#### Ground Water/Pesticide Protection Program

The EPA is working with the UDAF to establish a Ground Water State Management Plan as a new regulatory mechanism under FIFRA to prevent pesticide contamination of the nation's ground water resources. The Utah Ground Water/Pesticide State Management Plan is a state program that has been developed through cooperative efforts of the UDAF with various federal, state, and local resource agencies. The plan includes an assessment of risks posed to the state's ground water by a pesticide and a description of specific actions the state will take to protect ground water from potentially harmful effects of pesticides.

#### Certification Program

The UDAF has entered into a cooperative agreement with EPA to undertake the following as part of the department's Pesticide Certification program: maintaining state certification programs, state coordination with Utah State University Extension Service, state evaluation and participation in training programs, conduct certification activities, maintain records for certified pesticide applicators, and monitor certification program efforts. The department develops and prepares pesticide applicator certification manuals and examinations as part of the licensing requirements of the state.

### **Pesticide Enforcement Program**

The UDAF enforcement activities include the following: cancellation and suspension of pesticide products, general compliance monitoring, tracking, sample collection and analysis, enforcement response policy, ground water and endangered species pesticide enforcement activities, and FIFRA section 19 (f) enforcement actions.

#### **Pesticide Activity**

No. of inspections of pesticides sales establishments:	14
No. of physical pesticide samples collected:	18
No. of investigations of pesticide uses:	93
No. of violations:	27
No. of pesticide applicator training sessions:	20
No. of applicators certified Commercial, Non-Commercial, Private:	4,679
No. of pesticide dealers licensed:	96

### **Seed Inspection and Testing**

Administration of the Utah Seed Act (Title 4, Chapter 16) involves the inspection and testing of seeds offered for sale in Utah. Work performed in FY 2003-2004 is summarized below:

Number of seed samples tested:	1865
Number of violations determined:	61

### **Seed Testing and Seed Law Enforcement**

The seed analysts and seed laboratory technician conduct tests on seed samples submitted by agricultural inspectors, seed companies, and other interested parties. Most common tests include percent germination, purity, and presence of noxious weeds; although a number of other tests are performed upon request. Inspectors monitor the seed trade by collecting representative samples for testing and by checking for proper labeling of all seed offered for sale and for the presence of noxious weeds and other undesirable factors.

### **Noxious Weed Control Program**

In administering the Utah Noxious Weed Control act (Title 4, Chapter 17), the State Weed Specialist coordinates and monitors Weed Control Programs throughout the State. The thirteen agricultural field representatives located throughout the state made approximately 1,246 visits and inspections. This includes visits and or direct contact with the agencies listed below:

1. Retail Establishments
2. Weed Supervisors
3. State Agencies
4. Federal Agencies
5. Utility Companies
6. Private Landowners
7. Hay and Straw Certification

### **Cooperative Weed Management**

During the past several years the Department has been working diligently with local land management agencies and the counties to encourage the development of Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA's). Weed management areas are designed to bring people together; to form partnerships to control noxious or invasive weed species. The CWMA's breakdown some of the traditional barriers that have existed for many years. The County Weed Departments and the local managers of State and Federal

lands, along with private land owners are now able to cooperate and collaborate on similar noxious weed issues. They can share resources and even help with weed control problems on lands that they do not administer. We now have 25 organized Cooperative Weed Management areas in Utah.

### **Control of Noxious Weeds**

1. The Division Weed Specialist coordinates weed control activities among the county weed organizations and the agricultural field representatives.
2. Surveys of serious weed infestations are conducted and control programs are developed through the county weed supervisors, county weed boards, and landowning agencies.
3. The weed specialist and the inspectors work with extension and research personnel in encouraging the use of the most effective methods to control the more serious weeds.
4. Noxious Weed Free Hay Certificates.

### **Activities in Hay and Straw Certification**

Certification of hay and straw to be free from noxious weeds has become an important part of allowing these materials to be fed or utilized on public lands throughout Utah and other western states. Weed free certification is now required for all hay and straw used on public land. Plant Industry Compliance Specialists performed the following activities relating to this program:

Inspections in 25 counties  
Inspections for 122 producers  
Approximately 220,165 hay bales  
Approximately 119,451 straw bales  
Inspected 3,375 acres for hay cubes and 650 tons of cubed hay  
Number of Inspections: 174

### **Commercial Feed Program**

Administration of the Utah Commercial Feed Act, (Title 4, Chapter 12) involves inspection, registration, and sampling of commercial feed products. Activities performed in this program in 2002 are summarized below:

Number of feed manufacturers or registrants contacted:	656
Number of feed products registered:	6,834
Number of analysis requested of chem. Lab:	1,407
Number of feed samples collected and tested:	393
Number of violations:	47

### **Grain Inspection**

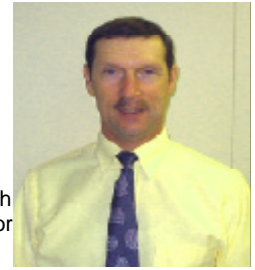
The Federal Grain Inspection Service provides under authority of Title 4, Chapter 2, Section 2, and under designated authority grain inspection services. Following is a summary of work performed during the past fiscal year under dedicated credit provisions, with expenses paid by revenue received for grading services:

Number of samples:	10,571
Number of miscellaneous tests conducted:	20,261
Total number of activities performed:	30,832

NOTE: Volume of work is influenced each year by a number of factors, among which are weather conditions, governmental crop programs, and marketing situations.

# Regulatory Services

Dr. Chris Crnich  
Director



2003 has been a challenging year for the Food Program in the Division of Regulatory Services. There has been a 45 percent turnover in regulatory staff. Programs have been added to address the dramatic changes that have occurred in the food industry in the last decade. New scientific information has driven how we approach the concept of food safety. Our goal is to reduce the number of foodborne illnesses by applying scientific principles. This is to ensure the consumer receives a safe and properly label food product.

## Mission

UDAF works towards accomplishing the food program's mission of ensuring:

- v Foods are safe, wholesome, and sanitary.
- v Food products are honestly, accurately, and informatively represented.
- v These products are in compliance with Utah's laws and rules.
- v Noncompliance is identified and corrected.
- v Unsafe or unlawful products are removed from the marketplace.

## Food Program

The number of facilities in a given category and the number of inspections conducted in each category are indicated in the table.

2003 Inspections		
ESTABLISHMENT TYPE	NUMBER	INSPECTIONS
Bakeries	396	717
Grain Processors	10	15
Grocery Stores	1194	1839
Meat Departments	366	669
Food Processors	416	624
Warehouses	262	323
Water Facilities	19	33
TOTAL	2,663	4,220

## Enforcement

The Utah Wholesome Food Act has two main laws that are used to evaluate the safety and wholesomeness. First there is adulteration. A food is adulterated if it contains any poisonous substance, which may render it injurious to health, or if it has been produced or stored under conditions whereby it may become contaminated with filth, or rendered diseased, unwholesome, or injurious to health. Misbranding is the second. Misbranding is when food products are improperly labeled or is missing key information.

In order to protect the consumer, food that is suspected of being misbranded or adulterated is prevented from moving in commerce. This is achieved through Voluntary Destructions, Hold Orders and Releases. In 2003, thirty seven (37) hold orders were issued involving 36,224,974 pounds of food. Thirty (30) hold order releases were issued releasing 19,976,561 pounds of food. One hundred (100) voluntary destructions were issued which resulted in 19,817,717 pounds of food being voluntarily destroyed because it was suspected of being adulterated.

## Warning Notices

When voluntary compliance cannot be achieved, we take additional regulatory action in the form of Warning Notices and Administrative Action. In 2003, UDAF sent out 71 Warning Notices concerning noncompliance with the Utah Wholesome Food Act (WFA) and the Utah Food Protection Rule (FPR). Ten Cease & Desist orders protected the public from food processed in an unsanitary manner.

## Citations

Fifteen citations were issued in 2003. Six were issued to supermarkets, one to a warehouse, and one to a bakery. Citations continue to be an effective enforcement tool.

## Food Program Changes

In a year where many states were seeing major budget cuts, the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) received a budget increase. Based on FDA's food program standard number 8, Program Support and Resources, UDAF documented the food program was nine full time equivalents (FTEs) short. This made it very difficult to cover food program areas for which we have regulatory responsibilities. The state legislature recognized this shortage and appropriated funding for two new FTEs based on these findings.

UDAF's shortage in staff has caused up to prioritize and focus our efforts on program areas that maximize our effectiveness. This year our greatest challenge has been the large turnover in staff. Three employees left to work for other agencies and we had two new FTEs to train. UDAF has eleven environmental health specialists. Therefore, 45% of our staff is new. Most of the changes occurred in Salt Lake, so 83% of our office staff was new. Maintaining basic coverage and providing customer service has been very challenging.

## Legislation

In the 2004 legislative session House Bill 283 was passed. This bill requires food establishments to register with UDAF. House Bill 283 requires a rule to be written which will allow

UDAF to deny registration, issue a conditional denial or suspend a registration. Fees will be assessed based on risk, square footage, and the number of employees. Many of the details of this new program need to be worked out to achieve a successful program. With the passing of this bill Regulatory Services received another full time employee for the food program.

UDAF is in the process of implementing 21 CFR Part 120 or the Juice HACCP regulations. We have identified the dairy and juice processors within the state and are educating them so they can be in compliance by January 2004.

### **Egg & Poultry Grading**

In 1953, under the direction of then Secretary of Agriculture, Era Taft Benson, the USDA Agriculture Marketing Service was organized. Still today, these services are provided to the consumers and the egg and poultry industries of Utah. These grading services are provided by Utah egg and poultry staff members through cooperative agreements with AMS and the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service. These grading services allow Utah egg and poultry producers to market their products locally and around the world.

Grading provides a standardized means of describing the marketability of a particular product. Through the application of uniform grade standards, both eggs and poultry can be classified according to a range of quality characteristics. Buyers, sellers and consumers alike can communicate about these characteristics through a common language. The use of the official USDA grade shield certifies that both eggs and poultry have been graded under the continuous inspection of grading personnel.

Program activities include:

- Shell Egg Grading
- Egg Products Inspection
- Shell Egg Surveillance
- Poultry Grading

### **Shell Egg Grading**

As the Utah egg industry has grown and consolidated, the demand for USDA grading services has also increased. In 1988 USDA licensed egg graders of Utah graded approximately 65,000 cases (30 Dozen per Case). During 2003, USDA licensed egg graders graded 895,566 Cases (30 Dozen per Case). This is a record number of USDA graded eggs in Utah. This is approximately a 14% increase over last year.

### **Egg Products Inspection**

In 1970 Congress passed the Egg Products Inspection Act. This made it mandatory that liquid, frozen and dried egg products be processed under continuous inspection. Utah Egg and Poultry staff members provide this inspection in Utah with a cooperative agreement with FSIS.

Basic egg products include whole eggs, whites, yolks and blends, with or without various non-egg ingredients. The further processing of eggs adds greater product stability, longer shelf life, and ease in preparation and storage, as well as product safety. Egg products are used by the food service industry, and as ingredients in other foods such as mayonnaise and ice cream.

During the year 2003, 233,164 (30 dozen per case) cases of shell eggs were processed into liquid or frozen egg products in Utah. This is an increase of about 8% over the previous year.

### **Shell Egg Surveillance**

The Egg Products Inspection Act also requires that all egg producers with over 3,000 layers, firms grading and packing eggs from production sources other than their own, and Hatcheries be registered with the USDA. These firms are visited quarterly to verify that shell eggs packed for the consumer are in compliance, that restricted eggs are being disposed of properly, and that adequate records are being maintained.

### **Poultry Grading**

Utah's Sanpete valley is home to one of the oldest turkey producing cooperatives in the country. Moroni Feed Co. was established in 1938. It is a fully integrated operation providing its members everything from poult to processing and marketing. The Utah Egg and Poultry staff members provide this cooperative with USDA grading services. Moroni Feed Co. processes turkey and turkey products, many of which are USDA graded and then distributed to consumers world wide.

The USDA licensed Poultry graders of Utah graded 88,779,895 lbs. of turkey and turkey products in the year 2003. This is a slight decrease over last years 88,989,110 lbs.

### **Dairy Compliance Program**

The program seeks voluntary compliance to the Utah Dairy Act, Administrative Rules, and the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO) all of which regulate the state's dairy industry. When voluntary compliance cannot be achieved, regulatory action is initiated. During the calendar year 2003, there were 1,667 inspections conducted; 322 administrative letters written; 47 Grade 'A' permits suspended; and 1 administrative hearing held. Of the 1,155 dairy farm inspections conducted in 2003, 179 inspections, or 16%, found animal drug storage or labeling violations, and 8% of the inspections found prohibited animal drugs on the dairy premises. 28 dairies had their permits suspended for having their milk test positive for antibiotic drug residues, and thus 850,000 pounds of adulterated milk and milk products were removed from commerce and out of the food chain by Utah Dairy Compliance Officers.

### **New Initiatives**

Regulatory Services was given an FDA grant to enhance food safety. We partnered with the Safety Food Institute to develop a grocery store training program. The training was developed around the risk factors identified during the FDA's baseline data collection. Training modules focused on the five practices and behaviors that exceeded a 40% out of compliance during this survey. We gathered data to show changes in an employee's behavior after viewing the five to seven minute interactive programs.

The grant was completed in September 2003. UDAF conducted pre-training inspections and post-training inspections. The results were amazing. Employees were excited about what they were learning. One meat manager had been in the business



for 31 years and did not know the cold holding temperature for potentially hazardous food. He was so proud that he had finally learned the temperature. He went through all the tapes and captured the highlights. He laminated them and hung them on the wall of the meat department for people to understand and use. Many employees wondered why they had never been given this basic information before. Despite the high turnover rate among the employees, they gained knowledge in food safety principles pertaining to their operation.

### **Goals for the Upcoming Year**

The Utah Wholesome Food Act was modified with the passing of House Bill 283. This is a very large project that will require a great deal of communication and cooperation between programs and divisions to be successful. The initial phase of this project, which includes educating the compliance officers, notifying industry, setting up a database, website development, and development of an enforcement plan, is critical. Many details still need to be worked out.

UDAF developed a strategic implementation plan to implement the requirements of House Bill 283. The plan is a growing and evolving as new areas are identified and explored. Industry's input is critical to the success of this plan.

### **Bedding, Upholstered Furniture & Quilted Clothing**

The purpose of the Bedding, Upholstered Furniture, Quilted Clothing Program is to protect consumers against fraud and product misrepresentation, to assure Utahns hygienically clean products and to provide allergy awareness before purchase of these articles. Utah law requires manufacturers, supply dealers, wholesalers, and repairers of these products and their components to obtain an annual license before offering items for sale within the state. Application forms (printable in Adobe Acrobat), and other program materials are available at the following URL: <http://ag.utah.gov/regsvcs/bedding.html>

Product labels are required to indicate whether the product is made with new or used filling materials and to disclose those materials by generic name and percentage. This enables consumers to make price/value/performance-based buying decisions. It also encourages fair competition among manufacturers by establishing uniformity in labeling and component disclosure.

Annual license fees fund an inspection program that allows products to be examined and tested to ensure contents are accurately labeled and free from filth and other contaminants. During 2003, 1703 licenses generated \$91,445.00 in general revenue making the program self-sustaining.

In recent years, the percentage of products being produced outside the United States has grown rapidly. This increases the need for regulation to maintain a level playing field for US manufacturers. It also increases the need for product scrutiny and examination to prevent importation of prohibited plant and animal products which might contaminate US food or fiber sources.

One issue currently impacting the bedding industry may eventually apply to upholstered furniture as well. California's Technical Bulletin (TB) 603 published this year, requires mattress sets to be resistant to open flame. California plans to begin

enforcing those requirements by January 1, 2005. Current national regulations only require that mattress sets are smolder resistant, but the federal government is considering implementing open flame requirements as well.

Due to intensified concern about the number of household fires resulting from children playing with matches and candles in bedrooms, California is currently working on TB 604 which could be published as early as 2005. This bulletin would require that top of the mattress bedding (sheets, comforters, blankets, pillows, etc) also be resistant to open flame. These regulations will probably increase the consumer cost of such products, but may also decrease the number of fatalities resulting from house fires.

Another other issue currently troubling mattress manufactures are the 30/60/90 day mattress "love it or exchange it" guarantees offered by furniture retailers. In Utah and many other states, mattress sets are considered "Secondhand" once they have been in someone's home and must be tagged as such.

The International Sleep Products Association (ISPA) is asking the National Government to take over bedding regulation. Uniformity in regulation would help manufacturers who are often confused by the varying requirements in different states. However, this would also allow the US government to determine whether USED bedding should be labeled "SECONDHAND" and to set new criteria which might be less strict. In the past federal agencies often haven't had adequate funding and/or personnel to enforce the regulations they write. In such cases, they usually request states to enforce the federal regulations.

### **Food Labeling**

The State of Utah has adopted labeling regulations as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and reviews labels to assist manufacturers to comply with these regulations. Label reviews help new producers avoid costly reprinting of incorrect labels and help assure that consumers get complete and accurate information in a uniform format on all food products.

Proper labeling of food ingredients is a vitally important issue to consumers who have food sensitivities or other dietary restrictions. Reports of allergic reactions to incompletely or incorrectly labeled foods continue to increase. Manufacturers are responsible for ensuring that food is not adulterated or misbranded as a result of undeclared allergens. The Food & Drug Administration (FDA) believes the following foods account for more than 90% of all food allergies: legumes, milk, eggs, fish, crustacea, mollusks, tree nuts, and wheat.

The CFR provides that spices, flavors, and certain colors used in foods may be declared collectively without naming each one individually. However, in some instances, these ingredients contain sub-components that are allergens. Evidence indicates that some food allergens can cause serious reactions even when present in very small amounts. Therefore, the presence of an allergen, even as a sub-component of another ingredient, must be listed in the ingredient statement.

On July 9, 2003, FDA issued a regulation requiring manufacturers to list trans fatty acids, or trans fat, on the Nutrition Facts panel of foods. With this rule, consumers will have more

information to make healthier food choices and thus lower their consumption of trans fat as part of a heart-healthy diet. Scientific studies have determined that consuming foods containing trans fat, saturated fat, and cholesterol, raise levels of LDL-cholesterol and increase the risk of coronary heart disease.

Vegetable shortenings, some margarines, crackers, cookies, snack foods and other foods made with or fried in partially hydrogenated oils are sources of trans fat. FDA has not set a "Daily Value" for trans fat intake or defined it to allow such statements as "low in trans fat" or "trans fat free". However, they are urging consumers to keep their consumption of trans fat as low as possible. Food manufacturers have until Jan. 1, 2006, to list trans fat on nutrition labels.

FDA estimates that by January 2009, trans fat labeling will have prevented from 600 to 1,200 cases of coronary heart disease and from 250 to 500 deaths each year.

Correct and complete food labels help to protect consumers and contribute to a safe and healthful food source for all of us. However, consumers are still ultimately responsible to read and understand the label and make choices based on their personal need.

### **Weights & Measures**

The Weights and Measures Program involves all weights and measures of every kind and any instrument or device used in weighing or measuring application. The purpose of the program is to ensure that equity prevails in the market place and that commodities bought or sold are accurately weighed or measured and properly identified. Unannounced inspections are routinely conducted. Weights and Measures also respond to consumer complaints. These activities are enforced through the Utah Weights and Measures Act and five accompanying administrative rules.

In the year 2003, emphasis was given to consumer protection in the area of price verification, package inspection, liquefied petroleum meters, scale inspections, gasoline pumps and petroleum and water meters.

The Weights & Measures Program operates in the following areas:

#### **General Inspections**

Scales are inspected to insure that they are accurate for the services in which they are used, installed properly, and positioned so that customers can see the display.

Weights and Measures inspectors pump fuel into a certified test measure to check for the accuracy of the amount of product delivered by the dispenser.

Scanner Inspections may be conducted in any type of store. Scanner pricing errors adversely affect retailers and consumers. Retailers lose profits on undercharges and consumers lose money on overcharges. Price Verification inspections ensure that consumers are charged the advertised price for the items they purchase.

Weights and Measures officials check packaged products to be sure they contain the quantity stated on the label. Inspectors take random samples of packages in stores and count the items in the packages. Officials weigh or measure the contents to see if the labeled quantity is accurate.

Our inspectors checked 6,330 small capacity scales (0 – 999lbs.) and 16,203 gasoline pumps. Every type of item is subject to either a scanning inspection, package checking, or label review. In 2003, there were 419 package check inspections. Package inspections verify the net quantity statement. In 2003, 605 scanner inspections were conducted verifying prices at the checkout stands.

### **Large Capacity Scales**

Large-scale capacities include 1,000 lbs. and up. These devices may include scales used for weighing livestock, coal, gravel, vehicles, etc., within inspections conducted at auction yards, ranches, ports of entry, mine sites, construction sites, gravel pits and railroad yards, etc. A total of 1,380 large capacity scale inspections were conducted in 2003.

### **Liquefied Petroleum Gas Meters**

Our weights and measures LPG inspector provides inspections to all Utah Vendors dispensing LPG either through dispensers or delivery trucks. In 2003, there were 310 propane meters inspected throughout the state. These inspections included checking appropriate installation and calibration of propane dispensers and meters.

### **Large Capacity Petroleum & Water Meters**

Inspections are conducted on airport fuel trucks, fuel delivery trucks, cement batch plant water meters and other large meters. There were 463 inspections conducted in 2003.

### **Metrology Laboratory**

The Metrology Laboratory is operated and maintained by one person. The state maintains standards of mass, length, and volume. In the year 2003, 953 artifacts from industry and 208 artifacts from the Utah Weights and Measures Program were tested for a certificate of calibration certificate. These include calibration services in mass, length, and volume, using standards that are traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Consumers rely on the services of this facility to certify equipment used for weight, length or volumetric measurement in commercial business.

### **Motor Fuel Laboratory**

The Motor Fuel Laboratory maintains a high standard of testing for motor fuel quality. For the year 2003, 58 complaint cases required investigation and validation of claims. Of the 58 cases, 50 were determined to be valid requiring further investigation. 22 of the cases that were investigated resulted in helping consumers recoup monetary losses of approximately \$10,000. This money was recovered from major fuel companies and insurances. The compensation was for repairs performed on vehicles with fuel related damage that had been properly and accurately diagnosed by professional mechanics. After the diagnosis by the professional mechanics, Utah Motor Fuel Testing Laboratory also verified the validity of the claims.

As population and industry growth continues, so does the need to provide weights and measures inspection services.

# UTAH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

